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LETTER DATED 22 JANUARY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ARMENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of Mr. Georgi Petrossian, Chairman of the Legislature of Nagorny Karabakh, dated 8 January 1993, regarding the joint statement by President Yeltsin and President Bush on 3 January 1993, on the conflict in Nagorny Karabakh.

I should be grateful if you would have this statement circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alexander ARZOUMANIAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

[Original: Russian]

Statement

The leadership of the Nagorny Karabakh Republic noted with understanding the joint statement by the President of Russia, Mr. Yeltsin, and the President of the United States of America, Mr. Bush, regarding Nagorny Karabakh. Naturally, the countries of the world, and in particular the major Powers, are disturbed by the situation in the region, where the five-year-old conflict culminated in the past year in direct aggression by the Azerbaijani Republic against the Nagorny Karabakh Republic.

If the interests of any people of the region are ignored, that could lead to an uncontrolled military escalation, accompanied by gross violations of human rights and countless disasters for the peaceful population.

Unfortunately, the position of certain countries of the Minsk group continues to impede progress towards a just settlement of the problem.

The efforts of mediators - individual countries and international organizations - are not bearing fruit, because Azerbaijan is taking a position that is clearly and totally destructive, and is trying to use all attempts at negotiation in order to score military successes. One example was the attempt by the Azerbaijani army to seize certain populated areas of the Nagorny Karabakh Republic in early January 1993; it was thwarted by the Republic's self-defence forces.

We hope that the major Powers will exert their authority and influence with countries that are deviating from well-considered and neutral positions.

The people and leadership of the Nagorny Karabakh Republic have repeatedly demonstrated their commitment to peaceful means of settlement and their total lack of interest in military escalation, as well as their readiness to involve all interested parties in the region in the search for a settlement.

We reaffirm our readiness to go along with all bona fide and constructive initiatives aimed at achieving a solution to the problem as soon as possible.

At the same time, we should again like to point out that the recognition of the Nagorny Karabakh Republic as a full party to the negotiations would help to accelerate the peace process.

(Signed) G. PETROSSIAN
Chairman of the Supreme Council
of the Nagorny Karabakh Republic